

Luna & Joshua 251

Chapter 251

After leaving the coffee shop, Luna went to the fresh market for grocery shopping.

Anne was not good at cooking, so since they lived together, naturally Luna was the one in charge of grocery shopping and cooking.

Holding the groceries in hand, Luna stood at the door. She reached for her keys when she heard

Anne's shy voice drifting in from inside the house.

"Luna is coming home soon, John, don't..."

"In a way, she's almost like our cupid, she won't mind..."

"She's in a bad mood recently, things have been rough for her, we shouldn't irritate her."

"Then we should make it fast, before she comes back Luna frowned.

Bad timing.

Placing the groceries at the entrance, she huffed out a long breath and turned and left.

The sky darkened, and Banyan City was lit up in an array of bright neon lights.

Luna wandered alone on the streets for a long, long time.

Unconsciously, she walked to the entrance of an art gallery.

She took a glance at the display board at the entrance: Renowned Artist Theo Allen's Art Exhibition:

Banyan City Stop.

Theo Allen was an artist she admired when she was still a student.

Once, a childish Luna scribbled in her diary: Life- long bucket list: attend Theo Allen's art exhibition at least once.

Many years had passed since, now after all that she went through, standing here and looking at his art exhibition again, strangely she felt nothing.

But she still bought a ticket and went in. After, this was once her dream.

There were not many people in the exhibition hall.

Walking along the corridor, she looked at the various pieces of art that accompanied her through her teenage years, memories of herself when she was young and frivolous appearing before her eyes.

She laughed self-deprecatingly.

"Joshua, thank you, I'm very glad to have the chance to attend Theo Allen's art exhibition."

"I'm happy I could help you fulfill your wish."

Sometime later, a familiar woman's voice pulled Luna's wandering thoughts back to the present.

She looked in the direction of the voice.

In the distance stood Alice Gibson in a long white dress, she had her arm hooked through Joshua's,

and was slowly heading in her direction.

They looked so intimate, like the perfect pair.

Suddenly, Luna understood why the woman's voice sounded so familiar to her.

Because that was what she used to sound like.

Not only did this woman look exactly like her before surgery, but even her voice also sounded exactly

the same.

Aura's words this afternoon rang in her ears again. " So he quietly switched me and your biological

sister. I became the second daughter of the Gibson family, while your biological daughter was sent to

an orphanage."

She could not help but frown.

Could Alice be her sister that was sent to the orphanage?

If she was, then everything made sense...

“ ‘Luna?’”

When she was still stuck in a daze, Alice and Joshua had already appeared in front of her.

Alice had her arm hooked through Joshua’s, the two of them looked extremely intimate. “What a coincidence, who thought we would see you here.”

Luna recovered from her daze and smiled faintly at her. “Yes, what a coincidence indeed. You like Mr. Allen’s paintings too?”

Alice looked at Luna with a smile on her face. “Yes, I do. Joshua knew I liked Mr. Allen, so the moment I came back, he paid a hefty fee and invited Mr. Allen over to Banyan City and organized this exhibition.”

Then, she even rubbed her head on Joshua’s chest in a display of affection. “My husband is the best! “

Looking at Alice wearing Luna’s old face and acting all lovey-dovey with Joshua, Luna felt a whirlpool of mixed emotions in her chest.

She did not know whether to be happy, because Joshua finally liked the old Luna Gibson.

Or to be sad, because the Luna Gibson he now liked was nothing but an imposter.

Or maybe, right now, Joshua was just putting on an act.

With this thought, Luna's lips curled up in a faint smile. "Then I must thank Mrs. Lynch, because of you, we finally have the chance to admire Mr. Allen's art right here in Banyan City."

Chapter 252

With that, she pointed at a painting behind her. "Mrs. Lynch, do you know the name of this painting?"

Alice rolled her eyes.

What was this woman doing, was she testing her?

She replied carelessly, "This painting is named 'The Act', it's used to critique people who intentionally put on an act in front of others to boast."

Luna smiled. "This painting is perfect for you."

Alice paused then realized Luna was using the painting to make fun of her!

She was accusing her of putting on an act!

Anger boiled in her chest. She tugged at Joshua's arm. "Honey, she's saying we don't love each other.

Kiss me and prove it to her! "

Joshua stiffened slightly, his arm still in her grip.

Running into Luna in this situation already made him feel awkward, and now Alice wanted him to act all

love-dovey in front of her?

And... kiss her?

He frowned. "Stop making a scene."

Since Alice returned to his side, he did consider kissing her.

But every time he almost did, somehow, his body instinctively rejected her.

He even consulted a psychiatrist because of this.

The psychiatrist said it could be because they had been apart for too long. Even though they loved

each other mentally, but physically they were strangers.

He could not even kiss her in private, how could he do it here in public?

"I'm not making a scene."

Alice was determined to take this opportunity to force Joshua to kiss her in front of Luna. "You don't

love me anymore, do you?"

He frowned and looked at her helplessly. "I don't have to prove my love for you in front of outsiders, do

!?”

The word ‘outsiders’ made Luna’s heart feel as if it had been squeezed.

But his explanation was not enough to satisfy Alice. She bit her lip. “I want you to! “

Then, she grasped the opportunity, stood up on her tiptoes and circled her arms around his neck,

pouting her lips in his direction...

Standing opposite the two of them, Luna looked on, her heart felt as if it was being torn into pieces by

an invisible hand.

Alice looked like her in the past.

In the eyes of the public, he was a kind and loving husband, fulfilling his wife’s every whim.

But in reality, he did not even want to give her a kiss.

Looking as their lips inched closer and closer, Luna knew she should look away.

But she could not help it, she stood there doggedly, her eyes focused on them.

The ache in her heart intensified, growing more and more uncomfortable, but still, she couldn’t move

her eyes away from them.

Just when their lips almost touched, Joshua’s phone rang.

The moment the ringtone was heard, Joshua instinctively pushed Alice away and turned to answer the phone.

Looking at his turned back, Alice bit her lip furiously. So close, so, so close!

She was so close to kissing his lips!

“It looks like your act has failed, Mrs. Lynch.”

Luna hooked her lips up in a smile, threw her a cold glance, and turned to leave. “You should discuss it with Mr. Lynch beforehand before acting out a skit in front of me.”

Her taunts and ridicule made Alice bite her lip harshly.

Raising her head, she looked at the CCTV camera above her, an evil glint shining in her eyes.

The next second, when Luna walked into the CCTV camera’s blind spot, Alice rushed forward Caught off guard, Luna was knocked into the wall.

Right when she was about to lose balance and fall, Luna instinctively placed her hand on the wall to steady herself.

Theo Allen’s most famous painting, ‘The Kite and The Girl’ hung on the wall. “Shrick — — ”

Luna's fingers pierced a hole in Theo Allen's world- renowned masterpiece.

Chapter 253

"Oh my god..."

Right when Luna's finger pierced through the painting, Alice exclaimed in shock, "This is Mr. Allen's favorite painting! Luna, even if you hate me, you don't have to go so far as to destroy this painting just because I like it?"

There were not many people in the exhibition hall at night, and the spot where they stood was darkly lit, so initially, no one noticed the ruckus going on between them.

With Alice's shout, everyone turned their attention to them.

Before Luna could regain her footing, the crowd's critical stares and words of reproach were heard.

"Why did you come to an art exhibition if you didn't appreciate art?"

"Apparently, someone once offered Master Allen ten million dollars to buy this piece of art but he refused! "

"Oh my god, can she afford to compensate him?"

"Jealous women are so crazy, destroying it just because someone else liked it?"

The rumble of the crowd's discussion was heard clearly.

Luna smiled wryly.

She drowned out the voices behind her and turned to look at the hole on the painting she accidentally made with her finger.

All along, she thought Alice was a quiet opportunist, someone who never wore their emotions on their face.

After all, to pour her time and effort into learning everything about someone else, and disguise herself as that person required a lot of patience and determination.

But she was wrong.

Alice Gibson was much more despicable than she thought.

"Miss."

Behind her, the cold voice of the exhibition manager rang out, "You will have to suffer the consequences for destroying Master Allen's painting. I'll give you three options, firstly, monetary compensation, second, replace the painting with a brand new one and lastly, legal action. Which one

would you prefer?”

Luna turned and glanced at the manager. “What if I told you there’s a hidden truth behind destroying the painting?”

Alice laughed lightly, “Ms. Luna destroyed this painting intentionally because she didn’t like me, what hidden truth can there be?”

Then, she turned and looked at the manager, acting high and righteous, “But since she put it that way, we should take a look at the CCTV recording. What if she’s indeed innocent?”

The manager considered it for a second. “Please follow me.”

The group of them went to the surveillance room.

“Manager, because of our mistake while displaying the paintings, the location where this painting was displayed...”

The staff member in the surveillance room bit his lip and said, “Is not within the camera’s radius.”

“Is this how you work?! “

The manager was about to explode with anger when the staff member hurriedly opened his mouth to make up for his mistake. “But when I was looking through the recording just now, I noticed someone

was standing in the spot where he would've clearly seen everything that happened! And according to the CCTV recording, when the incident occurred, his eyes were fixed in the direction of the painting! As long as we can get him to testify..."

The manager frowned, "So bring him here right now, quick! "

Their conversation made Alice's brows screw tightly together.

When she was pushing Luna...

She made sure there were no CCTVs and no witnesses!

How could it be...

She paused and stepped forward. "It's hardly fair to rely on a witness' testimony. Humans are not machines, they can't be 100% fair, what if that person is Luna's friend, then we would get tricked, wouldn't we?"

The manager paused and looked at the person on the CCTV recording.

"This person wouldn't lie."

He laughed lightly and pointed at the person on the recording. "Mrs. Lynch, this is Mr. Lynch, right?"

Alice stiffened and immediately looked over — The person on the screen was indeed Joshua.

Chapter 254

In a corner of the second floor, he was talking on the phone.

And the direction his eyes were looking in... was the direction in which she pushed Luna!

In an instant, Alice's face turned pale as a ghost.

"Mr. Lynch is our sponsor, and he's your husband, he would definitely remain fair and just."

With that, the manager immediately ordered a subordinate. "Go and invite Mr. Lynch here! "

Alice's expression turned immeasurably ugly. She was regretting her decision deeply.

Joshua saw her reaching out and pushing Luna.

She just returned to his side, he still had his reservations about her, if he realized she was not as kind

and gentle as she pretended to be...

Would he be suspicious of her?

"Ms. Luna."

The manager looked at her calmly. "Whether you intentionally destroyed this painting or you were

framed, we will know the truth once Mr. Lynch is here."

Luna stood on the spot; her hands clenched tightly into fists at her sides.

Alice had framed her for destroying Mr. Allen's painting, initially, she planned to prove her innocence with the CCTV recording and the testimony of witnesses.

But she did not expect the painting would be located in a blind spot.

And what's more, she did not expect Joshua would be the only witness.

She closed her eyes.

Would he... tell the truth to help her? "Mr. Lynch, this way please."

Following the staff member's voice that was filled with flattery, the tall and elegant man entered the surveillance room.

In the room, he glanced at Alice and Luna and understood what was going on.

He elegantly took out a cheque book and wrote a check for ten million dollars. "Give this to Mr. Allen, if

it's insufficient he can contact my secretary for extra compensation. I'll reimburse him for this painting."

Once the words left his mouth, the crowd was enveloped in a frenzy.

The manager frowned. "Mr. Lynch, we asked you here to testify..."

The man raised his cold eyes and swept them over the manager. "I said, I am reimbursing Mr. Allen for this painting."

The manager wanted to say more but immediately shut up when he came into contact with the man's ice-cold gaze.

He could not afford to get on Mr. Lynch's bad side!

From the beginning, all he wanted was someone to compensate for the loss of the painting.

Now that Joshua was willing to pay, they did not need to fixate on the perpetrator of the act.

And so he hurriedly lowered his head. "... Uhm, Mr. Lynch, thank you for coming."

Joshua snorted carelessly in reply and slowly walked to Alice.

Facing his razor-sharp gaze that felt as if he could see right through her, Alice instinctively lowered her head, not daring to meet his gaze.

Sighing softly, the man gently reached out an arm and wrapped it around Alice's waist. "Let's go."

Then, he held her and walked right past Luna.

From beginning to end, he did not even throw a glance her way.

Standing in her spot, Luna looked at his retreating back, her heart aching in pain.

She should've expected that he would protect Alice.

She did not even know she thought for a second that he might tell the truth and prove her innocence.

"Mr. Lynch."

When Joshua was about to walk out of the door with his arm wrapped about Alice's waist, a man's

clear voice rang out behind him.

The crowd looked in the direction where the voice came from. "Master Allen?"

The man waved emotionlessly at the crowd then laughed lightly as he looked at Joshua's retreating

back, "Your wife destroyed my painting, besides monetary compensation, doesn't she owe me an

apology?"

Chapter 255

Joshua paused in his tracks.

He turned back, a cold expression on his face, looked at the man behind him and said, "Master Allen, I

think you might be mistaken..."

Beside him, the manager hurriedly rushed to Theo's side. "The person who destroyed your painting is

Ms. Luna and not Mrs. Lynch.”

Theo smiled faintly, turned and threw a gentle glance in Luna’s direction. “Why didn’t you say that you were framed? Just because he paid ten million in compensation for you?”

Luna turned pale.

She lifted her eyes and looked at Theo, then turned and glanced at Joshua.

The man’s face was cold and expressionless. “That’s because no one will stand on my side.”

A moment later, she raised her head and stared at Joshua, saying word by word, “There’s no CCTV recording, and the only witness chose to remain silent, no matter what I say, no one will believe me.”

“Why would no one believe you?”

Theo laughed lightly, strode to Luna, and looked at Joshua with clear, calm eyes. “Mr. Lynch, as the only witness, shouldn’t you explain clearly who was the one who destroyed the painting? I value this painting very much; monetary compensation alone isn’t sufficient.”

Joshua’s hand that was wrapped around Alice’s waist tightened slightly. “Is that important?”

“Of course it is.”

Theo raised his head, an unyielding glint flashing in his gentle eyes as he looked at Joshua.

The two men stared at each other in confrontation.

In an instant, the atmosphere in the surveillance room turned tense.

After a long while, Joshua curled his lips in a smile. "Actually..."

He turned and looked at Luna. "I didn't see who was the one who actually destroyed your painting."

The manager paused. "But the staff said..."

"There's no rule that says just because I was standing there and my eyes were looking in that direction, that I definitely saw it, right?"

A cold look passed through his handsome face. "Even if I was staring in that direction, I was dozing off."

Joshua's words once again caused an uproar amongst the crowd.

Luna stood in her spot, her heart sinking lower and lower into the pits of her stomach.

She knew Joshua had definitely seen everything.

If he did not, he would not try to cover the truth so deliberately.

But he chose to lie, for Alice.

Closing her eyes, she felt the last fragment of hope she had been holding onto for him smash into pieces and disappear.

“I’m willing to pay the compensation because this matter involves both parties, one of them is my wife, and the other is a staff member working for me in the Lynch Group.”

Joshua’s cold voice silenced the low rumble of discussion in the room.

“As a husband or a superior, I have the responsibility to end this silly affair.”

He looked at Theo coldly. “Are you satisfied with my explanation?”

Theo smiled. “Of course I am.”

Then, Theo turned and looked at the pale-faced Luna, “I heard Ms. Luna is a fan of my art, would you accompany me to go see that painting again?”

Luna’s head snapped up, and was greeted with his warm, clear eyes.

She paused and nodded. “Alright! “

Theo was around the same age as Joshua, a young and successful artist.

When he just made a name for himself, Luna was already his fan.

He was her idol.

Now, her idol was standing in front of her, extending an invitation her way, how could she reject him?

“Let’s go.”

Theo laughed lightly, reached out, and held Luna’s hand.

Being held by an unfamiliar man, instinctively, Luna wanted to struggle. But she did not. She did not know what overcame her, instead, she flipped her palm over and gripped his hand tightly.

He did not expect her to hold his hand tightly, he paused, then laughed lightly, “Let’s go.”

After they left, the manager started to disperse the crowd. “Everyone, the issue is solved, there’s nothing more to see here.”

“Joshua, let’s go.”

Alice hooked her arm through Joshua’s, her voice soft and gentle.

Chapter 256

Joshua lifted his gaze and glanced in the direction where Luna and Theo had walked off from, their hands still intertwined. They had known each other for just a few minutes, yet they held hands like a couple would!

Joshua could not help but frown at the sight.

“Joshua... Did you really not see anything?” asked Alice tentatively as they made their way down the stairs, her hand still clutching his arm.

Joshua stared blankly ahead. “What do you think?”

Alice bit her lip and remained silent. After a moment, she said, “Actually, I— “

“I know,” Joshua gently interrupted her. “I know that you’re trying to take revenge on Luna for kidnapping your kids, but this will be the first and last time, Alice.”

He let out a deep sigh before continuing, “If you’re still holding a grudge against her, you shouldn’t have asked me to let her out. Now that we’ve released her, you shouldn’t be trying to take revenge on her.”

His voice was low and solemn.

Alice chewed her lip nervously. “Alright, I won’t let this happen again.”

She would be more careful next time.

Joshua could tell she was upset. He sighed and gently patted her hand. “I know that you’re still the kind and thoughtful woman I used to know, so don’t do this ever again.”

The two then walked out of the art gallery and were met with fresh air. Joshua lifted his head to gaze at

the city lights that blinked in the distance. "I'll ask Lucas to send you home."

Alice paused for a moment and said with a tone of slight displeasure, "Do you have to work overtime tonight?"

"Yes," murmured Joshua as he rubbed his eyebrows with an air of exhaustion. "I have a meeting tonight with some foreign companies."

"You've been working overtime for two nights in a row now," Alice protested. She bit her bottom lip and

tugged his arm in an attempt to coax him. "We haven't managed to spend time together ever since I returned..."

"It's not like we're ever going to be separated again in the future, so why are you so worried?" Joshua stroked her hair gently before he gestured at someone in the distance.

Lucas drove the car over. "Let's go, Mrs. Lynch."

Alice was reluctant to leave, but she had no other choice. She got into the car and said to Joshua, "Try to come home as soon as you can, darling."

Joshua nodded and waved at her. "Sleep early tonight."

Lucas started the car and drove off, leaving Joshua standing at the entrance of the art gallery as he stared off in the direction of the retreating vehicle. There was a twinge of sadness in his heart.

The Luna he knew would not have done what she did.

No matter how much hatred she harbored, she would not have ruined someone's artwork to get revenge against someone else. Moreover, Theo Allen was her favorite artist, and 'The Girl with the Kite' was his most famous painting.

Joshua was confused. This woman had turned from a kind, compassionate art fanatic into a revenge-seeking maniac. Could six years change someone that much? "I've loved all of your paintings ever since the first one. I'm such a huge fan!" A familiar voice pulled Joshua back to reality.

Joshua tilted his head and caught sight of the woman in a flowing white dress walking side by side with Theo.

The strands of her long hair fluttered with the gentle night breeze. The dim street lights illuminated the awestruck look in her eyes. "I've always wanted to become as talented an artist as you."

Her expression amused Theo. "It's my pleasure to have a fan like you." He glanced at his watch and

said to Luna, "It's getting late now. Why don't I give you a ride home?"

Luna wanted to decline his offer, but when she turned around, she caught a glimpse of the tall silhouette that stood under a street light. It was Joshua.

He stood there motionless, his shadow long, slender, and somewhat melancholic. Although she could not make out his face, she could feel his gaze on her.

She turned back to face Theo and gave him a polite smile. "I'd appreciate that, thank you."

Theo took her to his car, and the two departed in the direction of Anne's house.

With an air of displeasure, Joshua lit a cigarette. Then, after taking a few puffs, he put it out and got into his own car. He started the engine and left in the same direction as Theo's car.

Chapter 257

"I'm just curious," mused Luna as she sat in the passenger seat and gazed out at the road in front of her. "How did you know I wasn't the one who ruined your painting?"

Theo smiled in response as his hands gripped the steering wheel. "What if I told you, I believe that Moon isn't that kind of person?"

Luna froze momentarily at his reply before a chuckle escaped her lips. "Mr. Allen is familiar with me?"

“I used to be interested in jewelry design as well, and I tried it for a while, but I eventually gave up because it was too hard. During that time, I did a lot of research on my own, so I was acquainted with your work. To say that Moon is a household name in the field of jewelry design won’t be an exaggeration.”

Luna was surprised to hear that, but after pondering over it for a few moments, she thought it made sense. If not for the fact that he recognized her as Moon, Theo probably would not have rescued her back there, much less offered to send her home.

Her lips curled into a faint smile. “What a small world.”

“I did a lot of self-studying when I was young, thankfully. If I hadn’t, I would’ve missed out on the opportunity to acquaint myself with a master today.” Theo’s voice was soft and gentle as he continued, “Although, that wasn’t the only reason I knew you didn’t ruin my painting.”

Luna tilted her head to look at him.

“The painting that you ruined just now wasn’t the real one.”

There was a hint of a smile playing on Theo's lips. "I have some strange hobbies; one of them is displaying knock-offs of my own artwork and placing them in surveillance camera blind spots.

However, these paintings have cameras embedded inside them because I enjoy watching people's true reactions and opinions toward my artwork."

Luna paused for a moment before realization dawned on her. "Does that mean...you witnessed the whole process?"

"I guess you can say so." Theo stopped the car. "

We're here."

Luna turned around and realized that they had arrived at Anne's doorstep. She unfastened her seatbelt and got out of the car. "Thank you for the ride. Unfortunately, I can't invite you upstairs for a chat since I live with a friend."

Theo got out of the driver's seat as well. He handed her a name card along with a small, beautifully wrapped box. "I hope to get to know you better, Ms. Luna."

Luna hesitated for a moment but took the card from him nonetheless. "It'd be my pleasure."

Theo chuckled and pushed the box into Luna's hand. "Here. You can take it home and have a look first.

If you don't like it, you can return it to me." With that, he got into the car and gave her a wave. "Good

Luna stood motionless as she watched Theo's car depart. She let out a deep sigh of relief and shoved both the card and the box into her handbag before heading up the stairs.

The stairwell was dark. As soon as Luna entered, she was immediately pulled into the landing on one side. She did not have any time to react, much less scream for help.

The man who had dragged her into the landing did not do anything to her. Instead, he leaned against the door and lit a cigarette.

Luna managed to make out his face with the dim light of the cigarette. "Joshua?"

Joshua took a deep puff of his cigarette, his face expressionless. "You've barely known the man for an hour, yet you let him send you home and even accepted a gift from him?"

Luna's breath caught in her throat. "Were you following me?"

Joshua did not answer her. Instead, he shot her a cold glance. "Are you feeling lonely now because I left you and the children are back where they rightfully belong? Is that why you're so desperate?"

Luna gave him an incredulous look. "What does this have to do with you? Let me tell you, Joshua

Lynch, the only relationship I have with you right now is that of CEO and employee. Does the Lynch Group pride itself on invading its employees' privacy?"

Joshua paused. After a moment, he took another puff of his cigarette. "I just wanted to give you a word of caution: don't trust everyone you meet."

Within hours of meeting, Theo had held Luna's hand in public, drove her home, and even gave her a gift. Joshua's gut feeling told him that this man probably had ulterior motives toward her. He could not be trusted!

Chapter 258

"Don't trust everyone you meet..." Luna echoed then smirked. "That sounds like a piece of good advice. Unfortunately, there are a lot of good liars out there. Some of them are so skilled that even though the situation called for the truth, they can still lie through their teeth and claim they didn't see anything."

Luna lifted her head and gave Joshua a defiant look. "Do you agree with me, Mr. Lynch?"

Joshua's expression darkened. He remained silent for a long while before he finally confessed, "I'm sorry for what happened just now, but I have my reasons. Alice— "

"I know what your reasons are. It's because you can't bear to let your oh-so-perfect wife admit she did something wrong, isn't it?" Luna interjected, her suppressed rage finally taking over. "I genuinely can't understand you, Joshua.

"Luna Gibson sacrificed so much for you in your marriage, but did you give her anything in return?

Every night, she waited for you to get off work until past midnight. She was unhappy and your family

mistreated her, but she didn't say a single word about it to you to not upset you. She had a bright

future ahead of her, but because of you, she gave up on the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to study

abroad. What did you give her in return? You didn't even give her so much as a glance. Yet now, six

years later, you act like a perfect husband to Alice. You give her all your love and protection, and you're

even willing to go against your principles and lie for her." Luna turned her face to the side to hide her

disappointed expression. "I really can't understand you."

"You're right. Alice was indeed at fault for what happened today." Joshua let out a deep sigh. "Neil and

Nellie refuse to acknowledge her as their mother. The reason why she tried to frame you is that she's

jealous of you. She's jealous that the children seem to love you more than her."

Luna sniffed and snickered at him. "They'll never love her." Luna knew that her children would never acknowledge another woman as their mother.

"She's still their birth mother," said Joshua as he sighed again. "She and I will work together to try to regain their trust again. What happened today at the art gallery won't happen a second time."

Luna turned around and gave him a cold stare. "How do you know it won't happen again? What if it does? Will you lie for her again, just like how you did today?"

Joshua furrowed his brows in annoyance. "Don't be unreasonable. I already said this won't happen a second time."

"Well, you better hope it doesn't." Luna scoffed and circled him, but he immediately grabbed her arm. "

Stay away from Theo Allen."

Luna flung his hand away. "He's an artist I've admired for a long time, and I'm his favorite jewelry designer. Whatever happens between the two of us is none of your business! Why don't you go home and lecture your wife instead?"

Without a second glance, Luna strode out of the landing and entered the elevator. Just as the elevator doors closed, she caught a glimpse of Joshua, still standing motionless on the landing. She sniffed, a

little amused at the irony of the whole situation.

The elevator arrived at her floor. When Luna entered the apartment, she saw that Anne was already asleep. She had left some food for Luna on the dining table.

Luna microwaved the food and sat down for her dinner. As she ate, she opened the gift that Theo had given her before he left. It was a USB flash drive.

Luna frowned. Immediately, she picked up her bowl and went into her room. She inserted the flash drive into her computer.

The flash drive contained a video file that looked like footage caught from a surveillance camera. Luna played the video, and her eyes widened in shock as she watched.

Chapter 259

It was surveillance footage of Alice trying to frame her! The camera had caught everything from an excellent angle with Alice's face in full view and even managed to record the sound.

Luna stared at her computer screen dazedly before she suddenly recalled what Theo had said earlier.

'I display knock-offs of my own artwork and place them in surveillance camera blind spots. However,

these paintings have cameras embedded inside them

“Luna, Luna! “

The next morning, Luna was woken up by Anne’s continuous knocking. She rubbed her eyes and

crawled out of bed. “What’s wrong?”

Last night, as soon as she finished watching the footage, Luna sent the video to Nigel. Nigel had called

her in an attempt to console her, and the phone call had lasted a few hours. As a result, Luna had gone

to sleep at 2 a.m.

She was woken up at 7 a.m.

“Someone’s here for you! It’s a guy called Theo. He says he’s here to have breakfast with you and

drive you to work! “

Luna immediately jolted awake and leaped off the bed. “Theo?”

“Yeah, “ replied Anne from the other side of the door. “I think he’s an artist or something.”

Luna quickly washed up and groomed herself. When she finally emerged from her room, Theo, in all

white, sat on the couch as he talked with John. When he caught sight of Luna, Theo smiled and stood

up. “ Good morning.”

“Good morning,” muttered Luna, somewhat embarrassed.

Her lateness did not seem to bother him, however. He glanced at his watch. “If I remember correctly, the Lynch Group’s punch-in time is 8:30 am. It’s 7:20 am now, and the Lynch Group Tower is about thirty minutes away, which gives us forty minutes left to have breakfast together.”

As soon as he finished, Theo stood up in a graceful motion. “Come on, let’s go.”

Luna hesitated, but after a moment, she bade Anne farewell and followed him.

A while later, they were seated at a café near the Lynch Group Tower. Luna sipped her oatmeal and said to Theo, “I had no idea you were going to pick me up for work...” She gave him an awkward smile.

“I just...”

“You don’t think our relationship is at that stage yet?” The corners of Theo’s mouth turned up in a gentle smile. “It’s okay. You’ll get used to this soon.”

Luna pondered for a moment before she looked up at him solemnly. “I have a fiancé.”

Theo chuckled. “What does me trying to get to know you have anything to do with your fiancé?”

Luna was dumbstruck at his response. Not knowing what else to say, she continued eating her

breakfast instead.

"Your friend and her boyfriend have a really good thing going," said Theo nonchalantly. "He mentioned to me that you went home last night, but you left the food in front of the door and left. It must be inconvenient having her boyfriend hanging around all the time, isn't it?"

Luna kept silent, but she nodded after a moment. She had been considering moving out to live on her own since the house that had burnt down obviously could not be inhabited anymore. Besides, it would not be easy trying to get pregnant with Joshua's child. Luna knew she could not stay with Anne and be a third-wheel forever.

Theo took out a pamphlet from his bag and handed it to her. "I've been living here for quite a while now —it's a pretty good place. Why don't you take a look at this? If you like it, we can be neighbors."

Luna flipped through the pamphlet. Theo was right; it looked like an excellent good place to live. The location was strategic, just a stone's throw away from both the Lynch Group Tower and Blue Bay Villa, and the facilities looked superb. The rent was a little above average, but Luna had enough savings.

"Thank you, I'll consider it." She thanked Theo and slipped the pamphlet into her handbag. However,

just as she lifted her gaze, she caught sight of the two people coining in through the entrance.

Luna rolled her eyes. 'What an unfortunate coincidence, ' she thought. She did not expect to run into Joshua and Alice on a breakfast date like this.

Theo saw that she was gazing in the direction of the café entrance and turned around. He chuckled and waved at Joshua. "Mr. Lynch, fancy running into you here." Joshua was busy ordering with Alice at the counter, so he did not even notice Theo or Luna.

Chapter 260

Joshua turned around when he heard Theo's voice. As soon as his gaze met Luna's and Theo's, his expression darkened.

Alice, too, caught sight of them. She pursed her lips in indignation and said to Joshua pointedly, "Look at that. Luna and Theo Allen had just met yesterday, yet they're already here on a breakfast date. Tsk."

Joshua could not help but frown at Alice's tone. After a moment, he strode to where the duo sat and plopped down in the empty seat right next to Luna. " Let's share a table."

Alice had no choice but to hastily follow, but she noticed that the only available seat left was next to

Theo. She sat down reluctantly.

As soon as she sat down, Alice realized that something did not seem right. The café was not that crowded at all, and there were unoccupied tables all over the place. They did not need to share a table with Luna and Theo at all. Besides, even if they had to, Joshua should have sat next to her instead of with Luna.

Theo picked up his glass of oat milk and took a sip. “What an interesting combination here at this table,” he said meaningfully.

Luna could not stand having Joshua mere inches away from her, so she slurped the rest of her oatmeal until her bowl was empty. “Alright, I’m done. Mr. Lynch, will you excuse me, please?”

“Why are you in such a hurry?” asked Joshua as he glanced at the time. “There’s still half an hour left.

Besides, even if you were late, at least your boss was with you, so why are you so impatient?”

The waiter served Joshua and Alice’s meals. Joshua proceeded to eat his breakfast slowly and gracefully.

Luna smirked as she watched him chew. “Mr. Lynch, what you’re saying is that I should sit here and watch you eat, that only after you’re finished am I allowed to go to work. Is that correct?”

“Sounds about right.”

“You...! “

“Luna, “ Theo interjected with a polite smile. “Mr. Lynch has already given you a free pass. Even if you were late to work, you wouldn’t get into trouble anyway, so why are you in such a rush?”

Theo propped his chin up in his hands and gave Luna a tender look. “In the future, when you move here, we won’t have to come out for breakfast anymore. I’m a pretty good cook. Would you like to try my cooking sometime?”

Luna glanced at Joshua, who was eating with a sunken expression on his face, and replied, “Sure. I’m not a bad cook myself—we can take turns making breakfast.”

Thud!

As soon as Luna finished her sentence, Joshua slammed his glass forcefully against the table. The

bottom of the glass collided with the marble

tabletop and produced a deafening noise that immediately turned heads.

Alice jumped in shock. She bit her lip and asked, “ What’s wrong, Joshua? Do you not like the food?”

Joshua murmured in response, his face still sullen.

“Shall we go someplace else?” Alice asked nervously. She did not want to stay and watch Joshua and Luna sitting together.

Theo watched this scene unfold with a somewhat amused expression, rubbing his chin. “If Mr. Lynch doesn’t like having outside food, why didn’t you cook for him instead? Unless...you don’t know how to cook, Mrs. Lynch?”

Alice’s face paled at this. She gave Theo a cold glare. “What do you mean, I don’t know how to cook? I just didn’t feel like it!”

Joshua let out a strained smile. All of a sudden, a familiar voice echoed in his head.

‘I love making you breakfast. It makes me feel so accomplished!’

Joshua grimaced at the thought. It turned out his beloved Luna had indeed changed after all these years.

Luna glanced at Alice. “Mrs. Lynch, don’t you think making your husband breakfast gives you a sense of accomplishment?”

Upon hearing this, Joshua immediately lifted his head. The morning light streamed through the window

and landed right on Luna's face, giving her silhouette a halo of warm golden light that tugged at

Joshua's heartstrings.

Her voice, her face, everything was different from the Luna he had known six years ago, but the way

she said this, the glint in her clear eyes, and the adoring tone...was just the way he remembered!

In this instant, Joshua could not help but wonder if he was seeing things.